ABVP lashes out at A&N Admn for failing to get Central University for Isles; threatens protest demonstrations

ROOPA LALL

PORT BLAIR, DEC 28: The ABVP State Secretary, A&N Islands. R. Rajsekar in a hard-hitting letter addressed to the Lt. Governor. A&N Islands, with copies to the Prime Minister, Home Minister, HRD Minister, UGC Chairman, VC Pondicherry Varsity, Chief Secretary, A&N Administration and ABVP National General Secretary. has strongly opposed the proposed Deemed University (De-novo) for A&N Islands. The ABVP Secretury lashed out at the A&N Administration for trying to set up a Deemed University under a local society and attempting to forcefully convert all the existing colleges of A&N Islands as constituent colleges of the proposed university by distorting and compromising the UGC/GoI rules.

Quoting the information received through RTI. Rajsekar said that earlier also an effort was made by the Administration to start a Cluster University in the Islands but the MHRD and UGC rejected the proposal. None of the colleges in A&N Islands was found eligible for be-



coming the part of Cluster University. Criticizing the UT Administration, the ABVP Secretary charged it with trying to manipulate and force upon the people a Deemed University with the intent to affiliate the existing colleges under it so that it can hide its irregularities and its acts of omission and commission. "The truth of the matter is that the affiliating Pondicherry Central University in order to maintain the standards of higher education is constantly and persistently objecting to gross violations of UGC rules in these colleges and has been recommending to appoint regular Principals, sufficient regular teaching and nonteaching staff and creation of well equipped infrastructure and hostels etc which the Administration and responsible authorities have failed to comply till date. In a punitive action, the university has de-affiliated one of the colleges due to continuous violation of rules.

In all the colleges, the posts of Principals and Professors are lying vacant for almost two decades." the ABVP Secretary said in his letter to LG. Reiterating ABVP's long pending demand of Central University for A&N Islands in the interest of standard of education. Rajsekar said that the genuine demand is being scuttled by the Administration. Sounding a warning to the Administration, he said that the ABVP will be constrained to stage protest demonstrations against it if it imposes its 'non-sensible and arbitrary' decision of Deemed University on the public, and does not take up the matter of Central University earnestly. Meanwhile, addressing a press conference here this evening, Rajsekar reiterated his allegations saying that on 30th Dec 2018, the

A&N Admn made Prime Minister of India to announce their idea of a Deemed to be University to Islands name of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. However, the DAVP is strongly opposed to the proposed idea. Listing out the advantages of Central University, the State Secretary said that at present colleges in the islands are affiliated to Pondicherry University which is a reputed university and our students are recognized at national and international level. In contrast, the proposed deemed university will acquire these colleges as constituent colleges and the entire cost of expenditure will come to the college students as fees and charges. Most importantly, he said, the existing admn run colleges will be transferred to Society which will run the colleges and make its own rules and regulations which may not be as per UGC standard. As a Union Territory without Legislature Andaman is eligible for total centrally funded university, why dowe get a degraded one while we can get a Central University, Rajsekar said.